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Decisions on matters relating to the

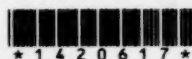
Committee on Housing and Land Management

Draft Decision**Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Land Administration under the Committee on Housing and Land Management¹**

1. At its seventy-second session (Geneva, 3-4 October 2011), the Committee on Housing and Land Management discussed the mandate (ECE/HBP/167) and Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA).
2. In this regard, the Committee agreed to recommend to EXCOM for the five-year renewal of the mandate of the WPLA for 2011-2015, according to a revised Terms of Reference (ECE/HBP/2011/4), contained herewith in Annex.
3. The Executive Committee hereby approves the renewal of the mandate of the WPLA until 31 December 2015 and the revised Terms of Reference contained in Annex.

¹ The mandate and terms of reference mentioned in this decision replace the previous mandate and terms of reference for the Working Party on Land Administration and previous Executive Committee decision related to this mandate and terms of reference. During the review of the 2005 ECE Reform, EXCOM agreed that existing subsidiary bodies of ECE could continue to function without further approval for their extension from EXCOM, until the end of the review process (Item 5 of EXCOM/CONCLU/45). Thus no request for renewal was submitted in the period 2011-2013.

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Annex

Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Land Administration

1. The Working Party on Land Administration operates under the auspices of the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management. Its members are the national land-administration authorities and related authorities from the member States of ECE.
2. The overall goals of the Working Party are the promotion and improvement of land administration and land management in the ECE region. The Working Party aims at supporting security of tenure, introducing and improving cadastre and land registry, and developing real estate markets.
3. The activities of the Working Party are based on cooperation and the exchange of experience among all countries of the ECE region. This is done through: seminars and workshops organized in ECE member countries; land-administration reviews; participation in the development of country profiles on the housing sector organized by the Committee on Housing and Land Management; publication of studies and guidelines on specific land-administration and land-management topics; benchmarking and preparation of inventories of land-administration systems in the ECE region; and the provision of policy advice and expert assistance. In particular, the Working Party deals with:

(a) Land Administration

General task: Improving the acquisition, registration, storage, maintenance and dissemination of information on real property rights as well as the geometric and physical characteristics of land.

Activities: Documentation of ownership rights, leases and mortgages, land cover, land-use and land-use restrictions, geo-referenced addresses; transfer of ownership rights; adjudication of land rights; solving of land disputes; cadastral mapping; database activities; real property valuation; personal data protection; re-use of land-administration public data; and other related activities. Pricing of services; cost-recovery requirements; development of professional skills; taxation of land and real properties; monitoring of real estate markets; development of e-services; participation of land-administration authorities in e-government programmes.

(b) Land management

General task: Contributing to the formulation, implementation and monitoring of land policy and geo-data policy (including related financial policy issues); promotion of sustainable land management programmes and projects.

Activities: Providing advice in support of implementation of geo-spatial data policy; contributing to sustainable development of urban and rural areas with particular focus on land consolidation, the protection of natural resources and the further strengthening of good governance.

4. The Working Party shall periodically review its programme of work to ensure coherence of its activities with the work of the Committee on Housing and Land Management and within the overall objectives of ECE.
5. The Working Party coordinates its activities in close contact with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations active in related fields, such as the

United Nations Programme on Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT), other United Nations regional commissions, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union institutions concerned with land management activities (e.g. the INSPIRE Initiative, the EULIS Project), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the Permanent Committee on Cadastre (PCC), the International Centre of Registration Law (CINDER), the European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information (EUROGI), EuroGeographics and the European Land Registry Association (ELRA).

6. The Working Party cooperates with international financial and donor organizations that fund programmes and projects related to land administration in countries of the ECE region, such as the European Union, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the World Bank.

7. The Working Party encourages partnership among the public and private sectors and their involvement in managing land resources and capacity-building for sustainable development. It encourages cooperation with educational institutions in order to enhance capacity-building activities.
